

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CENTRAL REGION SUPPLEMENT 01-2004  
TO NWSI 10-312  
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***OPERATIONS AND SERVICES  
MARINE AND COASTAL WEATHER SERVICES, NWSPD 10-3  
GREAT LAKES MARINE SERVICES, NWSI 10-312***

***COORDINATION OF BEGINNING/ENDING OF NEARSHORE ISSUANCES***

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***SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:*** This supplement establishes the policy and procedures for the coordination of the beginning and ending of issuance dates/times for the Nearshore Forecast.

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(Signed by) 2/25/04  
Dennis H. McCarthy Date  
Director, Central Region

**COORDINATION OF BEGINNING/ENDING OF NEARSHORE INSSUANCES**

Table of Contents: Page

1. Introduction/Background ..... 2

2. Central Region Policy ..... 2

3. Central Region Procedure ..... 2

    3.1. Coordinating the **beginning** of the Nearshore season ..... 2

    3.2. Coordinating the **ending** of the Nearshore season ..... 3

    3.3. Coordinating to **continue** the Nearshore season ..... 3

4. Central Region/Eastern Region Coordination of the Nearshore Forecast for Western Lake Erie  
..... 3

1. Introduction/Background. NWSI 10-312, issued July 8, 2003, “Great Lakes Marine Services”, Section 4.2.2 “Issuance Criteria” states, in part, “Specific dates [for seasonal beginning and ending of Nearshore Forecast issuances] are determined by responsible Regions.”.

2. Central Region Policy. The continuation, or beginning and ending dates/time, of the issuance of the Nearshore Forecast for each Central Region (CR) WFOs will be determined by the coordination of the affected CR WFOs, the Great Lakes Port Meteorological Officer (PMO) and the Regional Marine Program Manager. A CR WFO should issue the Nearshore forecast as long as there are a significant number of users/customers in its nearshore area.

3. Central Region Procedure.

3.1. Coordinating the beginning of the Nearshore season: The Central Region Marine Program Manager will convene a telephone conference on or around the first week of March. Besides the Regional Marine Program Manager, the telcon should consist of a representative of each CR WFO that has Nearshore responsibility and the Great Lakes PMO. The objective of this telcon is to discuss the past and future weather, user traffic, and other factors to discuss, and establish if appropriate, the date and time for the beginning of the Nearshore Forecast issuance for each CR WFO. A second, and possibly a third, telcon may be necessary to establish these dates/times.

Consistency among the adjacent WFOs should be considered when determining the date of the beginning of the Nearshore season. For example, under normal conditions and climatology, WFO Gaylord should begin its Nearshore season either the same date, or slightly later, than the date WFO Grand Rapids begins its Nearshore season.

3.2. Coordinating the **ending** of the Nearshore season: The Central Region Marine Program Manager will convene a telephone conference on or around the first week of November. Besides the Regional Marine Program Manager, the telcon should consist of a representative of each CR WFO that has Nearshore responsibility and the Great Lakes PMO. The objective of this telcon is to discuss the past and future weather, user traffic, and other factors to discuss, and establish if appropriate, the date and time for the ending of the Nearshore Forecast issuance for each CR WFO. A second, and possibly a third, telcon may be necessary to establish these dates/times.

Consistency among the adjacent WFOs should be considered when determining the date of the ending of the Nearshore season. For example, under normal conditions and climatology, WFO Gaylord should end its Nearshore season either the same date, or slightly earlier, than the date WFO Grand Rapids ends its season.

3.3 Coordinating to **continue** the Nearshore season: A WFO, the PMO, and the Regional Marine Program Manager may agree that certain WFO(s) should continue the Nearshore forecast season throughout the winter/early spring. Consistency among adjacent WFOs should be considered. For example, If WFOs Chicago and Gaylord decide to continue their Nearshore forecasts throughout the winter/early spring, WFO Grand Rapids should also follow suit.

4. Central Region/Eastern Region Coordination of the Nearshore Forecast for Western Lake Erie  
The beginning/ending date of the Nearshore Forecast season for Lake Erie will be determined through the coordination of the Regional Marine Program Managers, WFO Detroit/White Lake, and the PMO.